

REMARKS

Claims 1-15, originally pending in the application, are deemed to lack unity under PCT 1.31. In particular, the examiner contends that claims 1 and 2 are directed to a first species (Species I), namely a method for establishing the concealment order of macroblocks by progressing in one of the larger sides of an array. Claims 3-15 are deemed directed to a different species (Species II), namely, a method for concealing macroblocks in a rectangular array by progressing horizontally by rows. In this regard, the examiner contends that concealment method of Species II progresses in the opposite direction than Species I. **However, the concealment direction of Species I will only be different than Species II if the array is longer than it is wide.**

Rather than traverse the examiner's restriction requirement, applicant hereby elects Species I (Claims 1 and 2) and to that end, applicant has withdrawn claims 3-15 for pursuit in a divisional application.

No fees are believed due with regard to this Amendment. Please charge and fee or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. **07-0832**.

Respectfully submitted,
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